



PATENT  
TH-0776X (US)  
ERM:SWT

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*Eugene R. Montalvo*

Eugene R. Montalvo  
Date: December 7, 2000

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DEC 15 2000

3600 MAIL ROOM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of )  
DONALD WAYNE ALLEN ET AL. )  
Serial No. 08/970,312 ) Group Art Unit: 3673  
Filed November 14, 1997 ) Examiner: J. Lee  
FAIRED TRUSS SPAR ) December 7, 2000

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ATTN: DRAFTSMAN  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE UNDER MPEP § 608.02(r)**

Attorney for Applicant hereby files this Response to the Office Action mailed August 31, 2000 in the above-referenced application. Applicant submits a proposed red ink sketch of Figure 4 showing changes in accordance with MPEP § 608.02(v) to this Office action.

Please charge any fee associated with the filing of these drawings to Shell Oil Company, Deposit Account No. 19-1800.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD WAYNE ALLEN ET AL

By

*Eugene R. Montalvo*  
Their Attorney, Eugene R. Montalvo  
Registration No. 33,790  
(713) 241-0296

P.O. Box 2463  
Houston, Texas 77252-2463



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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE UNDER MPEP § 608.02(r)**

Attorney for Applicants hereby files this Response to the Office Action mailed August 31, 2000. A Petition for a One Month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action is being filed concurrently. At the time the Office Action was issued, claims 1, 2 and 4-8 were pending.

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Claims**

Please amend claim 1, at line 4 by deleting "seperated" and substituting -- separated--

Please amend claim 1, at line 4 by deleting "lowere" and substituting -- lower --.

**In the Drawings**

Attorney is submitting red ink corrections to Figure 4 under a separate cover letter to the Official Draftsman.